

a We Claim
CLAIMS:

- Sub C1*
- a* 1. ^{A pair} Pair of oligonucleotides, for use as a set in the amplification of a target sequence located within the LTR region of the genome of HIV-1, said pair consisting of a first oligonucleotide being 10-50 nucleotides in length and comprising, at least a fragment of 10 ^{sequential} nucleotides, of a sequence selected from the group consisting of:
- a* SEQ ID 1: G GGC GCC ACT GCT AGA GA;
 - a* SEQ ID 2: G TTC GGG CGC CAC TGC TAG A;
 - a* SEQ ID 3: CCGGCGCCACTGCTA;
 - a* and a second oligonucleotide being 10-50 nucleotides in length and comprising, at least a fragment of 10 ^{sequential} nucleotides, of a sequence selected from the group consisting of:
 - a* SEQ ID 4: CTG CTT AAA GCC TCA ATA AA;
 - a* SEQ ID 5: CTC AAT AAA GCT TGC CTT GA;
 - a* SEQ ID 12: GAT GCA TGC TCA ATA AAG CTT GCC TTG AGT.
- a* 2. ^{The pair} Pair of oligonucleotides according to claim 1, consisting of a first oligonucleotide being 10-50 nucleotides in length and comprising, at least a fragment of 10 ^{sequential} nucleotides of the sequence
- a* SEQ ID 1: G GGC GCC ACT GCT AGA GA; and a second oligonucleotide being 10-50 nucleotides in length and comprising, at least a fragment of 10 ^{sequential} nucleotides of the sequence
 - a* SEQ ID 5: CTC AAT AAA GCT TGC CTT GA.
- a* 3. ^{The pair} Pair of oligonucleotides according to claim 1, or 2 wherein the first oligonucleotide is provided with a promoter sequence recognized by a DNA dependent RNA polymerase.
- Sub C1*
- a* 4. ^{The pair} Pair of oligonucleotides according to claim 3, consisting of a first oligonucleotide consisting essentially of the sequence
- a* SEQ ID 9: aat tct aat acg act cac tat agg gAG AGG GGC GCC ACT GCT AGA GA and a second oligonucleotide consisting essentially of the sequence
 - a* SEQ ID 5: CTC AAT AAA GCT TGC CTT GA.
- a* 5. ^{A method} Method for the detection of HIV-1 nucleic acid in a sample wherein the sample is subjected to a nucleic acid amplification reaction using a pair of oligonucleotides according to any of claims 1-4 and suitable amplification reagents and the presence of any amplified nucleic acid is detected.

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- The method*
- a 6. Method according to claim 5, wherein the detection of any amplified nucleic acid is carried out by reacting the sample with one or more oligonucleotides having (a) sequence(s) selected from the group: consisting of:
- SEQ ID 6: TCT GGT AAC TAG AGA TCC CTC
- SEQ ID 7: TAG TGT GTG CCC GTC TGT or
- a SEQ ID 8: AGT GTG TGC CCG TCT GTT,
- a or more of which are provided with a detectable label, under suitable
- a hybridization conditions, and detecting the presence of the label in any hybrids formed between the amplified sequence and the probe.
- The method*
- a 7. Method according to claim 5, wherein the amplification technique used is a transcription based amplification technique.
- A test*
- a 8. Test kit for the detection of HIV-1 in a sample comprising:
- a - a pair of oligonucleotides *according* to claim 1;
- one or more oligonucleotides comprising a nucleic acid sequence substantially complementary to at least part of the amplified nucleic acid
- a sequence, provided with a detectable label;
- suitable amplification reagents.
- A test*
- a 9. *oligonucleotides* Test kit for the detection of HIV-1 in a sample, comprising a pair of
- a oligonucleotide according to claim 4, together with suitable amplification reagents and means for detecting the amplified nucleic acid.
10. Use of a pair of oligonucleotides as a set of primers in the amplification of a target sequence located within the LTR region of the genome of HIV-1.

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